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often does build about bridges and in such situations as that described by Dr. Haymond. — R. RIDGEWAY.

THE GREEN SNAKE IN NEW MEXICO. — It may be interesting to mention an increase of geographical range for the common green snake (*Cyclophis vernalis*). It was found in 1874 at Abiquin, New Mexico, in the valley of the Chama, by Dr. O. Löew, and in 1875 by Lieut. W. L. Carpenter, U. S. A., in Moreno Valley, Northern New Mexico, and again at the head of Ponil Creek, Northern New Mexico. Lieutenant Carpenter also states that the species is by no means uncommon in Southern Colorado. — H. C. YARROW.

### ANTHROPOLOGY.

NOTES ON THE STONE IMPLEMENTS FROM ARKANSAS, AT THE PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION. — In the building erected by the State of Arkansas for the purpose of exhibiting the various resources of that commonwealth is a small but very beautiful series of stone implements, all of which, as I was there informed, were taken from various mounds in Garland, Montgomery, and Saline counties. While the various common forms of implements are all represented by excellent specimens, there is a noticeable preponderance of certain patterns which in other localities are less abundant than allied forms. For instance, the polished celts, of sizes suggesting the ax, rather than a skinning knife, are numerous represented, while but few specimens of the more common grooved ax are in the collection. Whether this preponderance of large celts, as compared with grooved axes, obtains throughout the territory from which these specimens were brought, I could not learn. Certainly, in the Eastern and Middle States the grooved axes are more abundant than celts of the same average size. The spear and arrow points are represented by a series which for beauty of material — they are all chipped from novaculite — and delicacy of workmanship far surpass any similar forms that I have seen. This perfection of the art of flint-chipping is alike in the spear-heads, six and eight inches in length, and the smallest of the arrow-points, scarcely more than half an inch long. The pestles are all cylindrical, and not with a flaring end, as is common to this form of implement in many localities. Of rude implements but few specimens are shown, and none with that weathering of the surface and roughness of chipping characteristic of the rude implements found in New Jersey, more especially in the valley of the Delaware.

Two specimens of a stone implement are shown which are believed to have been used in the cultivation of Indian corn. They certainly bear considerable resemblance to an ordinary plowshare, and doubtless could be used, if attached to a wooden handle, as a rude hand-plow, in light, sandy soils. The specimens bear marks of use upon them, and being found, as I am informed, in mounds, associated with undoubted relics, must be considered to be such, even though the conjecture as to their

being plows be far from the truth. The pottery is represented by several fragments of large jugs or vases, which are very elaborately ornamented; more so, I believe, than is usually the case, even with the earthenware of the mound-builders.

There is one roughly fashioned specimen of perforated stone, which would at first glance be looked upon as a poorly made chungkè stone. I call attention particularly to it because in the exhibit from the Cape of Good Hope there is a fac-simile of this Arkansas specimen, which, the commissioner from the Cape says, is a root-digger; a wooden handle is inserted in the perforation of the stone, and it is then used to drag away the earth from long tubers, in order that they may be gathered without fracture. May it not be that some of these rude chungkè stones, especially those that are small and not polished, were used thus, and not for playing the game which has given a name to perhaps more than two forms of stone implements? — CHAS. C. ABBOTT, M. D.

STONE IMPLEMENTS FROM OHIO, AT THE PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION. — The collections here brought together, and very conveniently arranged, occupy fourteen large cases, and give an excellent idea of the proficiency in flint-chipping attained by the aboriginal peoples of that State. Of the arrangement of the great number of specimens here exhibited, but one word other than of praise need be said. Would it not have been better to separate the surface-found or Indian relics from such as are referable to the mound-builders; or is this indeed impracticable?

Without further comment on the exhibit itself, which is so highly creditable to those having it in charge, I desire to make some comparative notes upon it, with reference to the allied and identical forms of stone implements found in New Jersey.

The display of arrow and spear heads is very complete. In comparison with those from New Jersey, the large number of specimens with serrated edges in the Ohio collection is very noticeable. They are not at all abundant in New Jersey; and the same may be remarked of the twisted or "rifle" arrow-points, of which there are a number on exhibition. Every type, both American and European, is well represented, and the gradation into spear and javelin heads is well shown. Of these larger forms, many are truly magnificent specimens of flint work, and compare well with the best specimens of Danish implements of the same pattern.

The exhibit of grooved stone axes, like that of the arrow-heads, is very large. They vary but little in pattern, but considerably in size, the largest specimen weighing sixteen and a half pounds. These axes are in all respects identical with those from New Jersey, the one difference in the series being a comparative absence of those not having the groove extending entirely around the specimen. The majority of stone axes found in New Jersey certainly are of this pattern.

The pestles exhibited are mostly short and flaring at the grinding ends, a form very rarely occurring in New Jersey.<sup>1</sup> Of drills, rimmers, or borers, whether for drilling in stone or merely perforating leather, the exhibit is very large and the specimens remarkably perfect, considering the delicate shape of the implement. While they do not differ from those found in New Jersey, they are of greater excellence of workmanship, as compared with those now found here; but it is not improbable that the longer time that the eastern specimens have been exposed to the rough usage of the plow, and their being found in stony fields usually, has caused the destruction of all but the stronger and ruder specimens in New Jersey. The same remarks are applicable to the scrapers in the Ohio collection. They do not differ from those found along the Atlantic coast. The series of pipes exhibited is a very attractive feature of the collection; and here, perhaps more than elsewhere, the commingling of Indian and mound-builders' relics is noticeable. Considering all that have the outlines of animals as those of the latter people, the other specimens show a much greater variety of shapes than the writer has as yet found in New Jersey; space will not permit us to give further details as to the various forms of stone implements exhibited, such as gorgets, charms, and animal-carvings. These differ in no way from similar ones found in New Jersey, if we consider the outlines of animals graven on stone as the work of the mound-builders.<sup>2</sup> Taken as a whole, the collection shows a somewhat greater proficiency in the art of working in stone, *with stone*, than would be demonstrated by a like series from New Jersey, and would point to a lower condition of the Atlantic coast tribes; but the difference is more apparent than real; for if eastern specimens of jasper, chalcedony, and quartz implements only are exhibited, we shall find about equal skill in flint-chipping; and it is only implements made from such minerals that are shown in the Ohio collection. It must be borne in mind, too, that a proportion, perhaps very large, of these beautiful spear and arrow points are the production of mound-builders. It is therefore an unwarrantable conclusion that the red Indians lost something of their skill in fabricating stone implements, as they wandered eastward. Leaving out of mind the mound-builder, is there anything to show that the Indian was ever more advanced in culture than he was when first known to the European? On the other hand, is there not much to indicate that he was at one time far less so? — CHAS. C. ABBOTT, M. D.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NEWS. — The Ninth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology is just issued from the Cambridge press. In addition to the usual informa-

<sup>1</sup> A magnificent specimen of this form is exhibited in one of the cases of the Rhode Island display, which, though small, is very interesting.

<sup>2</sup> It is very probable that some three or four specimens of well-drawn animals are not genuine; as certainly two or three of the ornamental axes of striped Silurian slate are very modern.

tion concerning the government and finances of the museum, we have the report of the curator, Mr. F. W. Putnam, upon the condition of the specimens and the additions. The most valuable gifts are from Mr. Alexander Agassiz and Mr. Paul Schumaker. Other contributors of objects and books are mentioned. The curator acknowledges the gratuitous services of Messrs. Lucien Carr and Ernest Jackson. The noticeable feature of the report is the photographs of Mr. Peabody and Dr. Jeffries Wyman, and the index to all the Reports to date. All of them are to be bound into a Centennial volume, in compliance with a call made "upon the public institutions and societies in the United States to furnish some account of their rise and progress," etc.

In *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie*, April, 1876, pages 401-438, V. Derrécagaix gives an extended notice of the Basques, which race the ethnologists of Europe regard as a connecting link between the prehistoric races and the earliest historic tribes of France and Spain.

In the *Comptes rendus de l'Académie des Sciences de l'Institut de Bologne*, J. Capellini publishes an article upon pliocene man in Tuscany. After an extended argument to identify the glacial epoch with the pliocene in Tuscany, the learned author finds the evidence of man's existence in the occurrence of notches and gashes in dorsal apophyses of the *Balænotus*, a species of cetacean, that he supposes to have been made by human agency, and with stone implements. P. Cazalis de Fondouce replies, in *Matériaux*, that while there seems to be evidence of the existence of a tertiary man, M. Capellini's proof is not conclusive, for the incisions in the *Halitherium* of Pouance are known to have been made by the *Carcharodon megalodon*, the dents and gashes in the bones found in the marl beds of Liognac were made by the *Surgus serratus*, and those in the bones from Saint-Prest by the *Canodontes Boinsvilletti*.

Number 5 of *Matériaux* comes to us with an interesting array of matter. The following are the principal articles: History of Quaternary Mammals in France, by J. Gaudry. The Discovery of a Human Station of the Neolithic Period, near Belfort, by Charles Grad. Flint Arrow-Points from the Gironde in the Collection of M. L. Lalanne, by E. Cartailhac. Studies upon the Primitive Races of Russia — The Meriens, by Count Ouvaroff. Celtic Tribes known to the Greeks anteriorly to the Third Century B. C., by M. Mazard. Upon a Station of the Stone Age at Basseville, near Clamency (Nièvre), by Darlet.

At the meeting of the ethnological section of the Russian Geographical Society, May 13th, M. J. Venieckoff read a report of the special commission charged to examine into the proposal to publish in an abridged form all the information that has appeared in foreign literature, especially English, on Upper Asia. The committee, while heartily approving of the idea, has suggested that a catalogue of books and articles relating to that region and its inhabitants should be published in the

Proceedings of the society, with an introductory essay on the geography and ethnography of the country, together with accurate maps.

In the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society, April, 1876, there is a review of Thompson's Marco Polo's Six Kingdoms or Cities in Java Minor identified in Translations from the Ancient Malay Annals.

The Museum of Ethnology at Leipzig, founded upon the magnificent collections of Dr. Klemm, of Dresden, has published its third annual report, containing the reports of the treasurer and of the trustees, and a list of the members and of the additions during the year.

Friederich von Hellevall, who has just succeeded Dr. Peschel as editor of *Das Ausland*, is engaged in compiling a geography on the principles adopted by Élysée Reclus in his *Géographie Universelle*. The work, which is to appear in fifty numbers, is entitled *Die Erde und ihre Völker*, and is to be published at Stuttgart, by W. Spemann & Co.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science will meet at Buffalo, August 23d; a subsection of anthropology will then be formed. Immediately afterwards, September 4th, the International Convention of Archæologists will meet in Philadelphia, where the finest display of American antiquities ever brought together is on exhibition in connection with the Centennial. The British Association will meet at Glasgow, September 6th. The International Congress of Anthropology and Prehistoric Archæology will meet at Buda-Pesth, 4th to 11th of September. The French Association will meet at Clermont-Ferrand, August 19th. The annual meeting of the German Anthropological Society will be held in Jena from the 9th to the 11th of August. — O. T. MASON.

## GEOLOGY AND PALÆONTOLOGY.

EXPLORATIONS BY WHEELER'S SURVEY. — In Mr. Gilbert's report we find an interesting chapter on the Colorado Plateau, which lies between the Rocky Mountain system and the Basin Range system at the east and west, and stretches northward to the Uintahs. The simplicity of its structure, he says, the thoroughness of its drainage, which rarely permits detritus to accumulate in its valleys, its barrenness, and the wonderful natural sections exposed in its cañons, conspire to render it indeed "the paradise of the geologist." Mr. Gilbert's studies supplement those of Newberry, Marcon, and Powell. This mountain system resembles the Appalachian in the absence of any great central axis, and in the general tendency to uniformity throughout, but differs widely in other respects. "In the Appalachians corrugation has been produced commonly by folding, exceptionally by faulting; in the Basin Ranges commonly by faulting, exceptionally by flexure." He believes that in the Appalachians the primary phenomena of mountain-building are superficial, and that in the Basin Ranges they are deep-seated, the superficial being